

the North Country. Today, their entire operation is in Granville, housed in a one million square foot manufacturing facility and employing hundreds of workers. Businesses like Telescope Manufacturing are the backbone of the North Country economy. They provide good, high skill jobs producing products that are in demand across the country and around the world.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to join the International Casual Furnishings Association in congratulating Telescope Casual Furnishings for receiving this award. They are a great example of the entrepreneurial spirit that defines the North Country. I look forward to their continued success.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JESSI COMBS

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Jessi Combs, who passed away on August 27, 2019 from injuries sustained during a land speed record attempt.

Jessi was born in Rockerville, South Dakota on July 27, 1980. After graduating from High School, Combs established a career in metal fabrication, and graduated from the Collision & Refinishing Core Program at Wyo Tech in 2004. Her unique blend of technical and personal skills led to her rapid career growth, and she frequently appeared on television shows showcasing different aspects of the automotive industry. This included serving as host of Mythbusters and Xtreme 4x4.

As a competitor, Jessi was fierce and unrivaled. She competed in the Baja 1000, the

Rallye Aicha des Gazelles, and was the first woman to place at Ultra4's King of the Hammers. In 2016 she followed up her earlier King of the Hammers success by finishing first in the 2016 Smittybilt Everyman Challenge Modified Class. In 2013, Combs successfully set the women's land speed record at the Alvord Desert in Oregon, holding a record of 398 mph with a top speed of 483.227 mph.

Jessi was an incredible person who was taken from this Earth far too soon. My condolences are with her family, friends, and the entire automotive industry as they continued to mourn her loss.

RECOGNIZING NANCY WHEELER-NICHOLS AS THE KERN COUNTY FAIR PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Nancy Wheeler-Nichols, who has been selected as the 2019 Person of the Year by the Kern County Fair, a county that I'm honored to represent in this Chamber.

Nancy, a graduate of Bakersfield's Garces High School and the University of San Diego, first started volunteering with the Kern County Fair in 1989, almost 30 years ago, when she was painting faces, putting together buttons, and inspiring a new generation of leaders to become involved in Agriculture. Nancy was appointed to the Board of the Kern County Fair in 2003 and has been a consistent presence for over 15 years in the fair's operations. Her agricultural insights have taken her beyond the needs of my district, however, as she

was recently appointed by then Governor Jerry Brown to the Board of Directors for California's Mid State Fair.

Outside of her work with the Kern County Fair, Nancy has served our community through a variety of organizations, including the Junior League of Bakersfield. She has been a tireless and much-needed voice for children experiencing abuse and neglect as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, and also on the board of the California Living Museum, an animal rehabilitation facility in my district that specializes in nursing back to health many of California's most vulnerable species.

In Kern County, agriculture is the lifeblood of our community, and the Kern County Fair has emerged as one of the biggest showcases of livestock and talent in our agricultural community. Although Nancy no longer lives in Bakersfield or Kern County, she is one of our own who consistently makes Kern County proud. Through her time and expertise, Nancy has made a tangible impact in our community and has made her a staple of the Kern County community.

Kern County Fair Person of the Year is a well-deserved honor for Nancy, who has provided years of public service to our community and has contributed to countless events, successful animal shows, and old-fashioned family fun. A selfless leader, Nancy juggles her volunteer and board work along with raising horses, cattle, and her four children: Kelsey, Jake, Sawyer, and Tommy. On behalf of our community, the Kern County Fair Board, and the thousands of people who have benefited from her guidance, I want to thank Nancy and her husband Jimmy for all that they do, and congratulate her on being the Kern County Fair's 2019 Person of the Year.